

FACTS about the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

MISSION—The mission of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation is to educate and to promote understanding and awareness of Virginia's role in the creation of the United States of America. The Foundation, accredited by the American Association of Museums, is an educational institution of the Commonwealth of Virginia and administers two living-history museums. Jamestown Settlement interprets the cultures of 17th-century colonial Jamestown, America's first permanent English settlement, and the Powhatan Indians. The Yorktown Victory Center interprets the impact of the American Revolution on the people of America and the development of the new nation.

GOVERNING BOARD—The Foundation is governed by a board of trustees. The Code of Virginia calls for the board of trustees to consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Education, members from the General Assembly, citizens of the Commonwealth appointed by the Governor, the president of the private affiliate Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., and individuals elected by the board of trustees. Delegate Vincent F. Callahan, Jr., and Senator Thomas K. Norment, Jr., currently serve as co-chairmen of the board of trustees.

PRIVATE AFFILIATE—The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., coordinates private fund development in support of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation programs. The Foundation, Inc., is administered by a board of directors consisting of no more than 30 members, including at least three but no more than seven members of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's board of trustees, as well as the trustees' chairman. The president of the Foundation, Inc., is A. Marshall Acuff, Jr.

BUDGET—The Foundation's operating budget in FY 2005-06 totals \$15.7 million. General funds appropriated by the General Assembly comprise 58 percent of the operating budget, while non-general funds, which consist substantially of admissions revenue, account for the remaining 42 percent. An additional \$35 million in state support was approved in the 2004-06 biennium for capital and maintenance reserve projects. In 2005, gift shop sales generated more than \$640,000 in net revenue. In FY 2004-05, a total of 2,192 corporate, foundation and individual donors provided cash or in-kind gifts totaling \$3,474,361 to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc. The board-designated endowment amounted to \$3.3 million.

VISITATION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT—Combined paid visitation on site was 599,034 in 2005 – 431,361 at Jamestown Settlement and 167,673 at the Yorktown Victory Center. Visitors to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museums contributed an estimated \$93 million to the Williamsburg area (Historic Triangle) economy.

NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES—The Foundation employs 211 full-time staff and up to 350 part-time staff, the number varying by season, in five management divisions: Museum Operations & Education; Marketing & Retail Operations; Development; Executive Office; and Administration (Facilities Management, Finance, Human Resources). Nearly 1,000 volunteers provided 41,832 hours of service to all areas of the Foundation's programs and activities in 2005.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS—During the 2004-05 academic year, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation programs served students through hands-on sessions and guided tours at both museums and in outreach settings. Structured educational programs at the two museums served 206,253 school participants. Outreach education programs were presented to 99,878 students, including students in 117 of Virginia's 132 school districts. The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation outreach education programs are endorsed by the National Council for the Social Studies, the nation's leading association of social studies educators.

COLLECTION—The portion of the collection related to the Jamestown Settlement theme is comprised of approximately 67,700 archaeological and non-archaeological objects reflecting Jamestown's English origins, the early colonial period, the American Indian culture of southeastern Virginia and the African culture that arrived in Virginia in the 17th century. Included are 16th- and 17th-century documents, portraits, engravings, navigational instruments, tools, furnishings and household items. The portion of the collection related to the Yorktown Victory Center is comprised of approximately 1,100 artifacts mainly of the 18th century, including documents, paintings, engravings, military equipment, nautical objects, medical tools, clothing, personal effects and household objects. The Foundation continues to build its collection by acquiring new artifacts at both museums to support its educational mission.

400TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION—Planning is under way to honor the 400th anniversary of America's first permanent English colony at Jamestown in 2007. In 1996, the Virginia General Assembly designated the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation as "the official entity of the Commonwealth" in planning and implementing the Jamestown quadricentennial observance. The Jamestown 2007 Steering Committee, created by the Foundation, is working with state, local and federal government entities, educational and preservation organizations, and citizen groups to plan a statewide commemoration that will heighten national awareness of Virginia's critical role in the development of America.



MUSEUM NOTES



Jamestown Settlement

Jamestown Settlement, a museum of 17th-century colonial Virginia, chronicles the history of Jamestown, America's first permanent English colony, from its beginnings in the Old World through the first century of its existence and explores the European, Powhatan Indian and African cultures that converged there.

Location

Between State Route 31 and the Colonial Parkway; adjacent to Colonial National Historical Park, which encompasses Historic Jamestowne, and six miles from Williamsburg.

Exhibit Areas

The museum consists of two elements: an indoor theater and gallery exhibits, and an outdoor living-history program. A 15minute introductory film, Jamestown: The Beginning, is shown every 20 minutes in the theater. In gallery exhibits, period artifacts are used with reproductions, dioramas and graphics to trace events that led to the founding of Jamestown and provide an overview of 1600s Virginia. Outdoors are a re-created Powhatan Indian village depicting the culture encountered by the English colonists, replicas of the three ships — Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery — that transported 104 men and boys from England to Jamestown in 1607, and a palisaded fort representing the colonists' first home. A riverfront discovery area provides information about European, Virginia Indian and African economic activities associated with water. In the outdoor areas, historical interpreters demonstrate daily activities and technology of the 17th century.

Historical Background

The Jamestown colony was sponsored by the Virginia Company of London, whose stockholders hoped to make a profit on the venture. The settlement faced great difficulties, but managed to endure and was made economically viable through the cultivation of tobacco. Jamestown served as the capital of Virginia until 1699, when the seat of government moved to Williamsburg.

Museum History

Opened April 1, 1957, as Jamestown Festival Park, commemorating the 350th anniversary of Jamestown's founding. Name changed to Jamestown Settlement in 1990. Planning and construction are under way of new facilities and programs to be completed by Jamestown's 400th anniversary in 2007.

Yorktown Victory Center

The Yorktown Victory Center, a museum of the American Revolution, chronicles America's struggle for independence from the beginnings of colonial unrest to the formation of the new nation. Thematic exhibits and living-history programs relate the experiences of ordinary men and women who lived during the Revolutionary era.

Location

On Route 1020 in Yorktown; adjacent to Colonial National Historical Park, which encompasses Yorktown Battlefield, and 12 miles from Williamsburg.

Exhibit Areas

The museum consists of a timeline, exhibition galleries and outdoor living history in re-created historical settings. The "Road to Revolution" open-air walkway and indoor exhibition galleries provide insight to the events that led to conflict between the American colonies and Britain, the war's impact on ordinary men and women, military life, the convergence of forces at Yorktown in 1781, and, in an exhibit opening in October 2006, the creation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. An 18-minute film, A Time of Revolution, is shown every 30 minutes in the Richard S. Reynolds Theater. Historical interpreters depict daily life of people during the Revolution in outdoor re-creations of a Continental Army encampment and a 1780s Tidewater Virginia farm. "A Children's Kaleidoscope" discovery room and an adult resource room also are available.

Historical Background

Yorktown was the site of the climactic battle of the American Revolution. Washington had the British army trapped along the shores of the York River, allied armies had land routes blocked, and the French navy blockaded escape by sea. Cornwallis was forced to surrender to the combined forces on October 19, 1781.

Museum History

Opened April 1, 1976, as one of three bicentennial centers in Virginia. A museum expansion and renovation culminated in April 1995 with the opening of new exhibition galleries. A long-term exhibition, "The Legacy of Yorktown: Virginia Beckons," will open in October 2006 in conjuction with the 225th anniversary of the Siege of Yorktown.

Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center are open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily year-round, until 6 p.m. June 15-August 15; closed Christmas and New Year's days. Admission to Jamestown Settlement is \$11.75 for adults and \$5.75 for youth ages 6-12. Admission to the Yorktown Victory Center is \$8.25 for adults and \$4.00 for youth ages 6-12. A combination ticket to both museums is \$17.00 for adults and \$8.25 for youth ages 6-12. An annual pass to both museums is \$35.00 for adults and \$17.50 for youth ages 6-12. Parking is free. For more information, call (757) 253-4838 or toll-free (888) 593-4682, or visit www.historyisfun.org.